



U.S. Department of Justice

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EVENT: Guilty Verdict

Defendant: Jamal Elledge

**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA RESIDENT CONVICTED
ON FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES**

A 36-year-old Los Angeles, California man was found guilty today by a federal jury in Detroit on charges of conspiracy to distribute marijuana and attempted possession with intent to distribute marijuana, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. Mr. Murphy was joined in the announcement by Robert L. Corso, Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration in Detroit.

Found guilty was Jamal Elledge.

The jury deliberated for approximately six hours before returning the verdict, concluding a one-week trial before United States District Judge Gerald E. Rosen.

The evidence presented at trial showed that Jamal Elledge hired drug couriers to travel from Los Angeles, California to Phoenix, Arizona, where they would receive hundreds of pounds of marijuana. The couriers would then transport the marijuana in rental vehicles to the Detroit, Michigan area. Elledge would fly to the Detroit area in order to accept the load of marijuana from the couriers. Evidence showed that the organization which Elledge was operating transported three loads of marijuana between August and November of 2002. On November 11, 2002, Elledge was arrested when he attempted to take custody of a 297 pound (gross weight) load of marijuana at a local hotel. The wholesale value of the marijuana involved in that transaction was approximately \$300,000.00.

Murphy commended the work of the agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration in the investigation.

Sentencing was set for January 27, 2006, at 2:00 p.m.. Based on the quantity of marijuana found by the jury's verdict, as well as his prior felony drug convictions, the defendant faces a maximum prison term of 30 years on each of the two counts. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Wayne F. Pratt.